MONDAY
November 02, 2026
City of North Chicago
1850 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064

Following City Council Meeting

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:51 p.m.

Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr., called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Allen

1. **PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION REGARDING THE 2026 NORTH CHICAGO WARD REDISTRICTING**

   Chief of Staff Greg Jackson shared a PowerPoint presentation with detailed information. The purpose of the presentation was to address the redistricting and the ward map. Major shifts in military housing occupancy, student housing levels, and voter registration patterns created population imbalances across the City's seven wards. To maintain equitable representation and ensure compliance with federal and state law, the City undertook a formal redistricting effort utilizing updated data, expert consultation, and a transparent legislative process. Redistricting was necessary due to significant population shifts, including the closure of Halsey Village, changing occupancy in Forrestal Village, and the expansion of Rosalind Franklin University student housing. Changes in voter registration also created population imbalances among wards, with some falling well below and others exceeding the ideal population. To comply with constitutional and Illinois legal requirements for equal representation, the City needed to adjust ward boundaries to ensure fair and balanced representation for all residents. The 2026 redistricting complied with all federal and Illinois legal requirements, including equal population, voting rights protections, and ward compactness and contiguity. The City worked with Election Data Services and legal counsel, involved aldermen, and conducted public reviews before adopting the final ordinance on June 15, 2026. All seven wards now have population deviations of approximately 3% or less. An October 2026 review confirmed that the approved maps were accurate and that confusion resulted from outdated County walk sheets. The maps remain in effect for the April 6, 2027 municipal election. Chief of Staff mentioned that he had spoken with Jeanette Solano, supervisor of the Board of Elections. Jeanette found no discrepancies in the approved maps. Chief of Staff reiterated that the maps were in effect and ward boundaries were approved.

   Alderman Evans asked whether there was an expiration date on the redistricting.

   Attorney Megan Mack stated that there could have been a motion to reconsider the initial vote at the following meeting. However, at that point it was too late to file a motion to reconsider.

Alderman Coleman asked a clarifying question…Asking whether 48 hours was allowed to undo the Council's initial vote and whether reintroducing an old policy or creating a new one would be allowable.

Attorney Megan Mack stated it could be done immediately following the meet, which would have been two weeks after the vote. Additionally, providing clarification.

Mayor Rockingham Jr. indicated that there was no cause to redraw a map currently, it was approved.

Alderman Wray moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy that the Committee of the Whole Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: Allen

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY
November 02, 2026
7:27 p.m.

Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Allen

1. **DISCUSSION OF A $950 COMMUNITY GRANT AWARD APPLIED FOR BY J&J QUALITY WALK**

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson recalled a group previously speaking to the council about financial support to provide scarves to the community. The group thought there would be more funding from Shields Township. Due to various questions regarding geographic boundaries and other matters of that nature, they were notified that they would receive the level of funding they expected. Chief of Staff mentioned that there had been plans for a winter festival but due to funding constraints, had not materialized, and was aware that Ms. Johnson, along with other council members, had additional questions. Therefore, the request is to table the matter until the next council meeting.

Alderman Coleman left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Alderman Jackson asked whether there was a deadline to be met.

Greg Jackson stated that it was not necessarily an issue for funding. Though they wanted to do something for Christmas, time was of the essence.

Discussion tabled to next meeting

2. **DISCUSSION OF 2026 PROPERTY TAX LEVY- TRUTH IN TAXATION**

Comptroller Accounts Tawanda Joyner indicated the EAV estimates were received from the county. Indicated that the increase was 6.8% again this year. Although it may be good for the city; however, the residents may see an increase on their tax bills. A public hearing may be necessary. Stating that there will be additional conversation and information in possible support for residents. A full presentation would be given at the following council meeting.

Discussion tabled to next meeting

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that the Finance/Audit Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: Coleman, Allen

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.